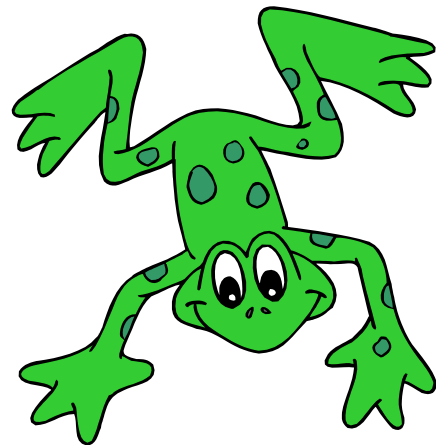


First Grade Leaps Into Learning

October 29, 2010



Assured Readiness for Learning / Reading News

We had another busy week learning to read! To review what we learned this past week, ask your child the following questions (*correct answers provided*): What letters and sounds did you learn this week? (***b*** and ***sh***) What keys did you learn to read (***ip***, ***ib***, ***ick***, and ***ish***)?

Next week will be a short one and we won't have any new letters or sounds. Our new keys will be ***in*** and ***ash***. The "circle words" will be ***day***, ***every***, ***her*** and ***said***. Those are some difficult words that cannot be easily sounded out. Good readers need to have an extensive sight word vocabulary to become independent readers with good comprehension skills.

Nightly homework should include reviewing/practicing the words on the lists of circle words, reading and spelling the keys, and rereading the key stories.

Math News

We had fun with "Halloween Math". We estimated how many pieces of candy corn were in a jar, measured length with candy corn, practiced addition and subtraction, and made a graph called "What We Will Be for Halloween".

Next week we will begin to work on basic subtraction facts to 10. We will begin with facts written in horizontal form. We will also tell, illustrate, and write subtraction stories (Math SOL 1.6). We will use the "cross out" strategy to show what is "taken away". Again, your child will be expected to show mastery of basic subtraction facts to 18 by the end of the year.



Science and Social Studies News

This week we reviewed what we have been learning about during the first advisory. We also had some Halloween fun! Be sure to ask your child what he/she learned from a pumpkin named Spookley!

Next week in Social Studies, we will be learning about the past, present, future, changes and how a time line shows changes over time. Discuss these important questions:

- How have schools changed over time?
- How have communities changed?
- How has transportation changed?
- What do we use to show the sequence of events occurring in the past or in the present?

Math Facts in a Flash

We use a computer program called "Math Facts in a Flash" to practice here at school. To pass a level, your child must answer 40 problems in 3 minutes or less. Many students have already passed some of the levels!

Important Dates in November

- 1 - NO SCHOOL Professional Day for Teachers
- 2 - NO SCHOOL Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences
1:00 - 4:00 and 5:00 - 7:00
- 3 - Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 11 - End of First Advisory
- 18 - Report Card Day
- 24 - Early Release for holiday
- 25-26 - NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation

Happy Halloween!

